

RESOLUTION 21-22
Testimony

MISC. COM. 104



HAWAII LABORERS-EMPLOYERS COOPERATION AND EDUCATION TRUST

650 Iwilei Road, Suite 285 · Honolulu, HI 96817 · Phone: 808-845-3238 · Fax: 808-845-8300

February 1, 2021

**HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL
Committee on Zoning and Planning
City Council Chamber
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
DATE: Thursday, February 4, 2021
TIME: 9:00 a.m.**

TESTIMONY ON RESOLUTION 21-22 – CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF DEAN Y. UCHIDA TO SERVE AS THE DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND PERMITTING OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

**To Council Chair Elefante, Vice Chair Kia'aina and members of the Honolulu City Council
Committee on Zoning and Planning:**

Hawaii LECET is a labor-management partnership between the Hawaii Laborers' International Union of North America, Local 368, its' 5000+ members and its' 250+ unionized contractors. The Laborers' International Union of North America is the largest construction union in the United States.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in strong support of Resolution 21-22, which seeks to confirm Dean Y. Uchida as the Director of the Department of Planning and Permitting for the City and County of Honolulu. Dean has extensive experience in planning and construction, having worked in the construction industry for close to 20 years. In addition, he has held leadership positions in government and the private sector, as a past Director for the Hawaii Housing and Development Corporation, former Vice President for D.R. Horton and past Executive Director for the Land Use Research Foundation.

The Department of Planning and Permitting will benefit greatly from Dean's institutional knowledge of Hawaii's policies regarding land use and development. His experience in the construction industry will enable him to effectively implement new ideas to assist with streamlining processes and effect positive change. For these reasons, Hawaii LECET supports Dean's nomination as the Director for the Department of Planning and Permitting for the City and County of Honolulu. Thank you for your consideration.

With respect,

Hawaii Laborers-Employers Cooperation & Education Trust

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 1:10 PM
Subject: Zoning and Planning Testimony

Written Testimony

Name Jeremy Shorenstein
Phone 808-489-5431
Email jeremy.shorenstein@gmail.com
Meeting Date 02-04-2021
Council/PH Committee Zoning and Planning
Agenda Item Resolution 21-22
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization

Aloha Honolulu City Council Members,

I'm writing this letter to lend my support for the appointment of Dean Uchida as the Director of the Honolulu Department of Planning and Permitting.

As an active volunteer and resident of Honolulu, I've seen the need for more creative solutions to address the affordable housing crisis on our island. Mr. Uchida's decades of experience in both the public and private sector is unique and essential in motivating the private sector to add more affordable housing stock at all income levels.

Written
Testimony

Mr. Uchida has shown his ability to execute on important issues, such as his experience as the President of the BIA (Building Industry Association) where he worked to develop policies to increase efficiency of the permitting process while remaining consistent with code requirements, or his experience successfully advocating for Important Agricultural Lands designations in Hawaii. Mr. Uchida has also shown his ability to be creative in the public sector via his tenure at DLNR where he implemented the first successful open ocean aquaculture operation to install open ocean fish nets to raise moi, contributing to a more sustainable food supply for the people of Hawaii. Lastly, Mr. Uchida actively advocated for the establishment of government construction and building design standards addressing sea level rise resulting from climate change as a member of the National Association of Homebuilders.

The possibility of a DPP director that can implement new and inventive ways to streamline DPP functions, stand up for important issues in the face of minority opposition publicly and bridge the gap between public and private interests is exciting, and I hope that you will share in my enthusiasm by voting in support of Resolution 21-22.

Mahalo for your time.



**TESTIMONY TO THE HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL
COMMITTEE ON ZONING AND PLANNING
HONOLULU HALE
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
February 4, 2021
9:00 AM**

Honorable Chair Eletante, Vice Chair Kiaaina, and members of the Council:

RE: Res. 21-22, Nomination of Dean Y. Uchida for Director of Dept. of Planning and Permitting.

My name is Beau Nobmann, 2021 President of the Building Industry Association of Hawaii (BIA-Hawaii). Chartered in 1955, the Building Industry Association of Hawaii is a professional trade organization affiliated with the National Association of Home Builders, representing the building industry and its associates. BIA-Hawaii takes a leadership role in unifying and promoting the interests of the industry to enhance the quality of life for the people of Hawaii. Our members build the communities we all call home.

BIA-Hawaii is in strong support of the nomination of Dean Y. Uchida to the directorship position of the Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP). As a past President and Government Relations Chairman for BIA-Hawaii, Dean showcased his wealth of knowledge and experience in the land and building industries. Dean possesses priceless institutional knowledge in both the government and private sectors, which would serve him extremely well in DPP.

In addition to Dean's experience, he is very collaborative and results-driven. DPP has struggled with issuing permits in a timely manner, something which has severely hampered the building industry in Hawaii. Dean's problem-solving nature and dedication will surely be integral towards identifying the areas of DPP which are in need of change.

Thank you for the opportunity to support this nomination. We would appreciate the Committee's favorable consideration of Dean Y. Uchida.



Chamber of Commerce HAWAII

The Voice of Business

**Testimony to the City & County of Honolulu City Council
Committee on Zoning and Planning
Thursday, February 4, 2021 at 9:00 A.M.
City Council Chamber, Honolulu Hale**

RE: HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 21-22

Chair Elefante, Vice Chair Kia'aina, and Members of the Committee:

The Chamber of Commerce Hawaii ("The Chamber") **supports** City Council Resolution 21-22 to confirm the nomination of Dean Y. Uchida to serve as the Director of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu.

The Chamber is Hawaii's leading statewide business advocacy organization, representing about 2,000+ businesses. Approximately 80% of our members are small businesses with less than 20 employees. As the "Voice of Business" in Hawaii, the organization works on behalf of members and the entire business community to improve the state's economic climate and to foster positive action on issues of common concern.

Mr. Uchida has served a distinguished career in both the private and public sectors in the State of Hawaii and brings a wealth of knowledge and experience in the land and building development industries. His experience working in both the public and private sector bring institutional knowledge that will serve well for the Department of Planning and Permitting.

Mr. Uchida has also formed effective coalitions and led a broad group of stakeholders in order to move issues forward. As a former co-chair of the Chamber's Infrastructure, Transportation, and Quality of Life Policy Committee, Mr. Uchida was engaged with helping to collaborate with members of the committee and helped to determine and recommend the Chamber's legislative priorities for these issue areas.

The Chamber is pleased to provide its support of Mr. Uchida's nomination to serve as the Director of the Department of Planning and Permitting. We believe that Mr. Uchida is the right person for this position at a critical time, and has the skillset necessary to guide our state and county's economic recovery from the ongoing COVID pandemic through this department.

We respectfully ask for your favorable consideration of this nomination.

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 8:22 AM
Subject: Zoning and Planning Testimony

Written Testimony

Name Judith Mick
Phone 8082543357
Email ppchawaii@yahoo.com
Meeting Date 02-04-2021
Council/PH Committee Zoning and Planning
Agenda Item nomination Director Planning and Permitting ~~Reso~~ 21-22
Your position on the matter Oppose
Representing Self
Organization

Written Testimony

Aloha- I support many of the new Mayor's nominations, but not that of Dean Uchida for Director of Planning and Permitting. His close connection to both D.R. Horton developer and the Land Use Research Foundation are disqualifiers. The LURF lobbies against anything that would stop or slow land development or anything that impacts developers' profits. There is no interest in protecting undeveloped land or building affordable housing. There are quite a few LURF supporters surrounding the Mayor and he himself has no environmental credentials to push back. Mr. Uchida would have a major influence on any Council laws - please do not support his nomination, Mahalo for your consideration., Aloha, Judith Mick, Kailua

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 9:21 AM
Subject: Zoning and Planning Testimony

Written Testimony

Name	Lynn McCrory
Phone	8086398442
Email	lmccrory654@gmail.com
Meeting Date	02-04-2021
Council/PH Committee	Zoning and Planning
Agenda Item	21-22
Your position on the matter	Support
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

D·R·HORTON®
America's Builder
H A W A I I

February 3, 2021

The Honorable Brandon Elefante, Chair
The Honorable Esther Kia`āina, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Zoning and Planning
City Council, City and County of Honolulu
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-3077

RE: **Resolution 21-22 (2020) – Nomination of Dean Y. Uchida to serve as the Director of Planning and Permitting**
Hearing Date: February 4, 2021 at 9:00am

Aloha Chair Elefante and Members of the Committee on Zoning and Planning,

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony on behalf of D.R. Horton offering our strong support for the nomination of Dean Uchida as the Director of Planning and Permitting.

D.R. Horton is one of Hawaii's largest home builders and has been providing affordable housing, "first time buyer" and "first time step up" homes for Hawaii's families throughout Oahu for over forty years. Hoopili, our large master planned community in East Kapolei, is currently home to over 1,100 Hawaii families. The sense of place that is taking shape at Hoopili is a result of the many hands and hearts that have contributed to the last 14 years of thoughtful discussion, planning and coming together. As a key D.R. Horton team member during the early years, Dean played an integral part of this highly collaborative process.

For the past 10 years, I have known Dean to be a consummate professional, trustworthy and of integrity. He is a critical thinker, problem solver and straightforward communicator. He is also willing to tackle and analyze complex issues head on while keeping productivity and progress always at the forefront. Most importantly, Dean is a "roll up your sleeves" servant leader who is unafraid to delve into "the weeds" to fully understand the complexities, nuances and potential efficiencies of operational processes and procedures, a must have at the helm of the Department of Planning and Permitting.

Mahalo for your time and favorable consideration of Dean Uchida as the next Director of Planning and Permitting. It is very much appreciated. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at #782-4109 or ttonaki@drhorton.com.

Sincerely,



Tracy Tonaki
Senior Vice President

Oahu • Maui • Hawaii Island • Kauai

130 Merchant Street, Suite 112 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 • 808.521.5661

www.drhorton.com/hawaii

M-104

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 11:45 AM
Subject: Zoning and Planning Testimony

Written Testimony

Name Dr. Kioni Dudley
Phone (808) 672-8888
Email DrKioniDudley@hawaii.rr.com
Meeting Date 02-04-2021
Council/PH Zoning and Planning
Committee
Agenda Item Res21-022
Your position
on the matter Oppose
Representing Organization
Organization Friends of Makakilo

Written Testimony Please oppose the nomination of Dean Uchida as the new head of DPP. He is the longtime head of the Land Use Resource Foundation, a pro-development lobbying group. If we get a pro-development lobbyist as the head of our Department of Planning and Permitting, that will be the last straw. Our government will be so solidly corrupt that citizens will just give up on it. I can't believe Mayor Blangiardi is doing this to us. The people voted against Amemiya because of his ties with so many unions.

Testimony
Attachment

Accept Terms
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 11:44 AM
Subject: Zoning and Planning Testimony

Written Testimony

Name Sharene Saito Tam
Phone 8086899611
Email stam@haseko.com
Meeting Date 02-04-2021
Council/PH Zoning and Planning
Committee
Agenda Item Resolution 21-22
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Organization
Organization Haseko Development, Inc.
Brandon J.C. Elefante, Chair
Esther Kia'āina, Vice Chair
and Members of the Committee on Zoning and Planning

RE: Resolution 21-22 - Nomination of Dean Y. Uchida to Serve as the Director of DPP

Aloha Chair Elefante, Vice Chair Kia'āina, and Members of the Committee on Zoning & Planning,

My name is Sharene Saito Tam and I am a Vice President for Haseko Development, Inc.

Written Testimony Haseko is in strong support of Mr. Uchida's nomination. His extensive experience gives him a broad, big-picture perspective and understanding of the importance of protecting natural resources while providing needed infrastructure and housing.

I have personally experienced his effectiveness in bringing together public and private interests to achieve a common goal - a solution for regional drainage that would allow UH West O'ahu and DHHL to both proceed with implementing their plans, protect Ewa Villages and other neighborhoods within the Kaloι watershed, and provide additional water quality treatment via golf courses to remove sediment from drainage flows before it reaches the ocean.

His proven ability to find the elusive common ground and compel competing interests to achieve a workable compromise is a crucial skill for DPP's Director to have.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Mr. Uchida's nomination.

Hawai'i Construction Alliance

P.O. Box 179441
Honolulu, HI 96817
(808) 220-8892

February 4, 2021

The Honorable Brandon J.C. Elefante, Chair
The Honorable Esther Kia'āina, Vice Chair
and Members
Honolulu City Council Zoning and Planning Committee
530 South King Street,
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

RE: Support for Resolution 21-22, Confirming the nomination of Dean Y. Uchida to serve as the Director of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu

Dear Chair Elefante, Vice Chair Kia'āina, and members:

The Hawai'i Construction Alliance is comprised of the Hawai'i Regional Council of Carpenters; the Operative Plasterers' and Cement Masons' Union, Local 630; International Union of Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers, Local 1; the Laborers' International Union of North America, Local 368; and the Operating Engineers, Local Union No. 3. Together, the member unions of the Hawai'i Construction Alliance represent 15,000 working men and women in the basic crafts of Hawai'i's construction industry.

The Hawaii Construction Alliance submits this testimony in support for Resolution 21-22 to confirm Dean Y. Uchida to serve as the Director of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu.

As we all know, the Department faces an extraordinary task of revamping their current practices in order to issue permits and approve plans in a timely fashion, while coping with the economic fallout from a global pandemic.

Mr. Uchida has a wealth of experience in development and planning and can utilize his network of contacts within the construction and development community to help bring about the large scale change that is needed for DPP.

The Alliance has had the chance to work closely with Dean and in addition to Dean's experience, we find him to be collaborative and results-driven,

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nathaniel K'.

Nathaniel Kinney
Executive Director
Hawai'i Construction Alliance
execdir@hawaiiconstructionalliance.org

HAWAII OPERATING ENGINEERS
INDUSTRY STABILIZATION FUND



*Uniting our strengths and working together
for a better tomorrow.*

Affiliated AFL-CIO
OPIIU - 3 - AFL-CIO (3)

February 2, 2021,

Honorable, Brandon Elefante, Zoning, Planning, and Housing Committee Chair
Honorable, Esther Kia`aina, Zoning, Planning, and Housing Committee, Vice Chair
Honorable Members of the Zoning, Planning, and Housing Committee

RE: RESOLUTION 21-22 – NOMINATION OF DEAN Y. UCHIDA. Confirming the nomination of Dean Y. Uchida to serve as the Director of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu.

Aloha Chair Elefante,

My name is Pane Meatoga III and I am the Community Liaison for the Hawaii Operating Engineers Industry Stabilization Fund (HOEISF). We are a labor management fund representing 3000 unionized members in heavy engineering site work and 500 general contractors specializing in heavy site work and vertical construction. The Hawaii Operating Engineers Industry Stabilization Fund submit this letter of strong support of the nomination of Dean Y. Uchida to the directorship position of the Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP).

As a past President and Government Relations Chairman for BIA-Hawaii, Dean showcased his wealth of knowledge and experience in the land and building industries. Dean possesses priceless institutional knowledge in both the government and private sectors, which would serve him extremely well in DPP.

In addition to Dean's experience, he is very collaborative, and results driven. DPP has struggled with issuing permits in a timely manner, something which has severely hampered the building industry in Hawaii. Dean's problem-solving nature and dedication will surely be integral towards identifying the areas of DPP which are in need of change.

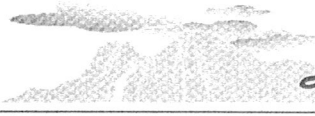
We are also impressed with Dean's collaborative style of leadership during his tenure at BIA that allowed the formation of strong coalitions to help guide legislation on both the county and state levels. We look forward to the same type of leadership as Dean leads the department to be more efficient and results driven.

Thank you for the opportunity to support this nomination. We would appreciate the Committee's favorable consideration of Dean Y. Uchida.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Pane Meatoga III". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line extending from the end.

Pane Meatoga III
Community Liaison
Hawaii Operating Engineers Industry Stabilization Fund



Hawaii's Thousand Friends

335 Hahani Street #342132 * Kailua, HI 96734 * Phone/Fax (808) 262-0682 E-Mail: htf3000@gmail.com

February 4, 2021

Committee on Zoning and Planning
Councilmember Elefante, Chair
Esther Kia`aina, Vice Chair
Radiant Cordero
Calvin Say

Resolution 21-22 Nomination of Dean Y. Uchida as Director of Planning and Permitting

A new administration, a new DPP director and new council member's offer an opportunity to restore confidence and transparency in the department and administration of our island's land use processes.

For years residents have been frustrated with the lack of enforcement of zoning laws.

A major problem has been the lack of action by DPP against *illegal* short-term vacation rentals, those without a Non-conforming Use Certificate (NUC). For years residents have turned in illegal short-term rentals and the department has not shut them down. It is common knowledge that entire homes, extra bedrooms, detached units, which can fetch hundreds of dollars a day, remove units from the rental housing market thus leaving less inventory for local residents.

We hope that the new administration and the department will make their top priorities: 1) enforcement of zoning, SMA, building, 2) more frequent inspections of properties for adherence to zoning and construction laws, 3) greater transparency including web site information updates, 4) ending the practice of settling for less money when a fine is levied,

Hawaii's Thousand Friends looks forward to working with the DPP director, mayor and council members as we all work towards the same goal of protecting our islands natural and cultural resources and enhancing the quality of life for island residents.

Mahalo,

Donna Wong
Executive Director



Ken Hayashida, P.E. | President
Michael Hunnemann, P.E. | Vice President

January 3, 2020

Councilman Brandon J. C. Elefante
Chair and Presiding Officer and Members
Honolulu City Council
530 South King Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair:

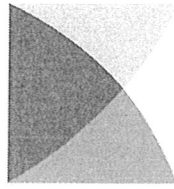
Subject: Nomination of Dean Uchida -Resolution 21-22
City and County of Honolulu-Director of Planning & Permitting

Aloha, I strongly support the nomination of Mr. Uchida as he is an effective and creative leader who exhibits strong personal values. Additionally, he is well qualified with

- 2 decades working with private corporations and public agencies
- Served as LURF Executive Director
- President of BIA- Hawaii
- Member - National Association of Home Builders
 - Served on Environmental Issues Committee - focuses policy supporting sustainability, green building and high-performance homes.
 - Advocated for the establishment of government construction and building design standards addressing sea level rise resulting from climate change.
- Land Division Administrator at DLNR
 - Managed 1.4 million acres of public lands,
 - oversaw water development projects for all state agencies, and
 - supervised the regulation of all conservation-zoned lands (2 million acres)
 - Helped to develop the Coastal lands Program for the State of Hawaii

Sincerely,

Ken K. Hayashida, President
KAI Hawaii, Inc.



KAPOLEI

February 1, 2021

The Honorable Tommy Waters, Chair
and Members of the City Council
Honolulu City Council
Honolulu Hale
530 S. King Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Waters and Councilmembers:

Resolution 21-22
Relating to the Nomination of Dean Y. Uchida to serve as the
Director of the Department of Planning and Permitting

It is with great pleasure that I submit my testimony in support of Mr. Uchida's nomination.

Throughout his career in construction and planning, Mr. Uchida has demonstrated a thorough understanding of the construction industry and civic planning, and has advocated for policies to promote the construction of safe and affordable housing and responsible community growth.

Mr. Uchida has a thorough knowledge of planning and permitting issues that stems from his almost 20 years of leadership experience, holding positions in government, non-profit, and private construction, including as Hawaii Housing and Development Corporation Director, President of the Building Industry Association of Hawaii, Vice President at D.R. Horton, and Executive Director of the Land Use Research Foundation.

Mr. Uchida has shown the ability to build consensus with building industry and community stakeholders, an attribute that is needed to bring new ideas to streamline Department services and plan for our community's future growth. For these reasons, we are in strong support of Resolution 21-22

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Steve Kelly
President



LiUNA!

TESTIMONY OF THE HAWAII LABORERS' UNION LOCAL 368

1617 Palama Street

Honolulu, Hawaii 96817

PETER A. GANABAN
*Business Manager/
Secretary-Treasurer*

ALFONSO OLIVER
President

JOBY NORTH II
Vice President

TONI FIGUEROA
Recording Secretary

JAMES DRUMGOLD JR.
Executive Board

ORLANDO PAESTE
Executive Board

JOSEPH YAW
Executive Board

MARTIN ARANAYDO
Auditor

RUSSELL NAPIHA'A
Auditor

MARK TRAVALINO
Auditor

ALFRED HUFANA JR.
Sergeant-At-Arms

Meeting: Committee on Zoning and Planning

Date: February 4, 2021

Time: 9:00 a.m.

RE: Resolution 21-22 Confirming the nomination of Dean Y. Uchida to serve as the Director of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu

Committee Chair Elefante, Vice Chair Kia'aina, and Committee members

The Hawaii Laborers' Union Local 368 and its 5,000 thousand working and retired men and women across the state of Hawaii supports nomination of Dean Y. Uchida to serve as the Director of Planning and Permitting.

We feel that Mr. Uchida's long history in the on the private end of construction industry will not only benefit the City and County of Honolulu, but the residents of this county as well.

Therefore, the Hawaii Laborers' Union Local 368 supports the nomination of Dean Y. Uchida as Director of the Department of Planning and Permitting for the City and County of Honolulu, and respectfully requests that this council do the same.

Respectfully,

Ryan Kobayashi

Hawaii Laborers' Union Local 368

LiUNA Local 368
1617 Palama Street
Honolulu, HI 96817
Phone: (808) 841-5877
Fax: (808) 847-7829
www.local368.org

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COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE
DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

HAWAII CHAPTER

February 3, 2021

Chair Brandon Elefante
Vice-chair Esther Kia'āina
Members of the Committee on Zoning
Planning and Housing
City Council, City and County of Honolulu
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: **Confirming the Nominations of Dean Y. Uchida to Serve as the Director of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu**

Hearing date: February 4, 2021 at 9:00 am

Aloha Chair Elefante and members of the Council,

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in SUPPORT of the selection and confirmation of Dean Y. Uchida for the Director position of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu. NAIOP Hawaii is the local chapter of the nation's leading organization for office, industrial, retail, residential and mixed-use real estate. NAIOP Hawaii has over 200 members in the State including local developers, owners, investors, asset managers, lenders and other professionals.

NAIOP Hawaii members have had the pleasure of working with Dean during his 11 years as the Senior Project Manager of SSFM International, Inc. NAIOP members have also collaborated with Dean in his capacity as Chair of the Hawaii Chamber of Commerce Land Use and Transportation Committee and as a board member of the Hawaii Housing Development Corporation. In these roles, Dean has brought significant knowledge of planning principles and project management allowing him to overcome any difficulties he has encountered. Dean has exemplified a unique attention to detail by consistently striving to improve financial oversight and focusing on the socioeconomic issues associated with executing complex projects.

Dean's experience includes wide variety of projects including the first multi-agency project on State owned lands leading to the construction of affordable housing and juvenile counseling facilities. He has exemplified the ability to engage with governmental agencies to secure land use entitlements and negotiate agreements for projects such as the first master planned community to integrate the City's High Capacity Transit Project. It will be essential to have a Director with Dean's skills, knowledge and experience to guide development in the City for many years to come.

Chair Brandon Elefante
Vice-chair Esther Kia'āina
February 3, 2021

We strongly support your selection of Dean Y. Uchida for the Director position of the Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu.

Mahalo for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Catherine Camp', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Catherine Camp, President
NAIOP Hawaii

Testimony of
Pacific Resource Partnership

City Council
Committee On Zoning And Planning
City & County of Honolulu
Councilmember Brandon J.C Elefante, Chair
Councilmember Esther Kia'āina, Vice Chair

Resolution 21-22—Confirming the Nomination of Dean Y. Uchida to Director of Planning and Permitting

Thursday, February 4, 2021
9:00 A.M.
City Council Chamber

Aloha Chair Elefante, Vice Chair Kia'āina, and Members of the Committee.

Pacific Resource Partnership (PRP) writes is strong support of Resolution 21-22, confirming the nomination of Dean Y. Uchida to serve as the Director of the Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) of the City and County of Honolulu.

Mr. Uchida's commitment to public service; understanding of the challenges and need for affordable housing in the City and County of Honolulu; extensive knowledge of the construction industry; experience in both the private and public sectors; and personal integrity renders him well suited to serve as Director of the Department of Planning and Permitting.

Therefore, PRP is pleased to offer our strong support for Mr. Uchida's confirmation as Director of DPP.



From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Tuesday, February 2, 2021 7:17 PM
Subject: Zoning and Planning Testimony

Written Testimony

Name Jeannine Johnson
Phone 808-395-1000
Email jeannine@hawaii.rr.com
Meeting Date 02-04-2021
Council/PH Committee Zoning and Planning
Agenda Item RESOLUTION 21-22 – NOMINATION OF DEAN Y. UCHIDA
Your position on the matter Oppose
Representing Self
Organization

Written Testimony

I oppose Mr. Uchida's nomination to serve as director of the DPP. Honolulu, now more than ever, needs a planner as the head of the DPP, not another developer and lobbyist for development. Even though he was once in charge of the Department of Land and Natural Resources' Land Division, Mr. Uchida was not a fan of regulatory controls. In 2003, as head of the Land Use Research Foundation, a lobbying group for developers, Mr. Uchida recommended elimination of the state Land Use Commission which is responsible for preserving and protecting Hawaii's lands. In 2018, as President of the Building Industry Association of Hawai'i, he opined on a Grassroots Institute video that only 5% of the State's 4 million acres are urbanized and even scoffed at how the community was outraged at building on agricultural lands.

I don't know Mr. Uchida and don't have anything personally against him, but with all the planners we have available in Hawai'i and, especially here on O'ahu, it is truly incomprehensible as to why Mr. Uchida would be nominated unless the Mayor's goal is to eliminate land use protections and zoning laws so that developers and the construction industry can build over our entire island with impunity. Please also oppose Mr. Uchida's nomination. Mahalo for your consideration.

Testimony
Attachment

Accept Terms
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 10:25 AM
Subject: Zoning and Planning Testimony

Written Testimony

Name Daniel Cody
Phone 808-255-4270
Email dcody@mwgroup.com
Meeting Date 02-04-2021
Council/PH Committee Zoning and Planning
Agenda Item Resolution 21-22
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization

I strongly SUPPORT the confirmation of Dean Uchida as the DPP Director.

Written
Testimony

Mr. Uchida has tremendous experience working with developers, contractors, government and environmental groups on a wide range of complex development projects and issues. He is very well positioned to identify process inefficiencies at DPP to streamline and expedite permit reviews while also ensuring the intent of the building codes and Land Use Ordinance are more thoroughly applied.

Mr Uchida understands our local culture and is committed to preserving Hawaii's unique environment. I expect his leadership at DPP will lead to faster and more thorough reviews of proposed projects which will ultimately lead to a lower cost of living and higher quality of life for our local residents.

I strongly encourage approval of Resolution 21-22.

Testimony
Attachment

Accept Terms
and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 10:39 AM
Subject: Zoning and Planning Testimony

Written Testimony

Name Vincent Shigekuni
Phone 8085215631
Email vshigekuni@pbrhawaii.com
Meeting Date 02-04-2021
Council/PH Committee Zoning and Planning
Agenda Item 4
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization

Written Testimony Regarding Resolution 21-22, I am very supportive of the nomination of Dean Uchida as Director of DPP. As a planner, I've had many opportunities to meet and work with Mr. Uchida, starting from when he worked at the State Department of Land and Natural Resources. I believe Mr. Uchida will be able understand many different viewpoints towards land use regulations.
Thank you very much for the opportunity to provide testimony. Vincent Shigekuni

Testimony Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 12:11 PM
Subject: Zoning and Planning Testimony

Written Testimony

Name Alan Arakawa
Phone 808-366-4001
Email aldrsa@gmail.com
Meeting Date 02-04-2021
Council/PH Zoning and Planning
Committee
Agenda Item 4. Resolution 21-22
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization

Written Testimony

This is to express my strong support for the confirmation of Dean Uchida as the Director of the Department of Planning & Permitting. I have known Dean Uchida for decades. His extensive experience in both the public and private sectors will serve the City & County makes him well qualified for the position. He is knowledgeable in land management and conservation, land use, development, and government policy. He will be able to understand and appreciate the perspectives of stakeholders on the many issues that are within the purview of the department.

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:06 PM
Subject: Zoning and Planning Testimony

Written Testimony

Name	Benjamin A. Kudo
Phone	8085390400
Email	bkudo@awlaw.com
Meeting Date	02-04-2021
Council/PH Committee	Zoning and Planning
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-22
Your position on the matter	Support
Representing	Organization
Organization	Ashford & Wriston
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

1065 Ahua Street
Honolulu, HI 96819
Phone: 808-833-1681 FAX: 839-4167
Email: info@gcahawaii.org
Website: www.gcahawaii.org



GCA of Hawaii

GENERAL CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF HAWAII

Quality People. Quality Projects.

February 3, 2021

Honolulu City Council
Committee on Zoning and Planning
City Council Chamber
Honolulu, HI 96813
Date: Thursday, February 4, 2021
Time: 9:00AM

Re: Resolution 21-22 Submitting for Consideration and Confirmation of the Appointment of Mr. Dean Y. Uchida to Serve as the Director of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu

Dear Chair Elefante, Vice Chair Kiaaina and Members of the City Council Committee on Zoning and Planning,

The Legislative Committee of the General Contractors Association of Hawaii is in **STRONG SUPPORT** of the appointment of Dean Y. Uchida as Director of the City's Department of Planning and Permitting.

Mr. Uchida possesses the background and skills necessary to lead the department effectively. He has many years of public and private sector experience relating to land use and development issues, including Land Administrator for the Department of Land and Natural Resources and Executive Director of the Land Use Research Foundation. He has a deep understanding of the permitting process and his leadership experience will facilitate a smooth transition. We are confident that Mr. Uchida will bring a fair and balanced approach to the Department.

Accordingly, we ask for your favorable consideration of Mr. Uchida's appointment to serve as the Director of the Department of Planning and Permitting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard A. Heltzel', is written over a horizontal line.

Rick Heltzel
Chair, Legislative Committee



February 4, 2021

RE: Testimony in Support of Resolution 21-22 - Confirmation of Dean Y. Uchida as the Director of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu

Aloha Chair Elefante, Vice Chair Esther Kia'āina and Committee Members,

On behalf of Ko Olina Resort, I am pleased to offer our support for the nomination of Dean Y. Uchida as Director of the Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) of the City and County of Honolulu.

I have personally known Dean for many years and found him to be a consummate professional and extremely knowledgeable of Honolulu's complex land use issues. He is also an upstanding member of our community. He previously served Hawai'i in many positions as the former Land Use Research Foundation Executive Director and as the head of the Department of Land and Natural Resources' (DLNR) land division where he was responsible for managing State lands and Hawai'i's natural resources. He was also involved in efforts to improve infrastructure and increase housing units for our kama'aina and he helped redevelop the State's Department of Education (DOE) properties toward achieving their best use.

Dean will be an asset to the City and County of Honolulu because he is mindful of balancing the needs of our 'aina with the state's demand for new development. Dean's experience and professionalism will help modernize and streamline the DPP which will help Honolulu successfully overcome the current economic crisis.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of Dean Y. Uchida.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Ken Williams", with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Ken Williams
General Manager, Ko Olina Resort



February 2, 2021

IN SUPPORT

Resolution 21-22 Dean Y. Uchida to Serve as Director of the Department of Planning and Permitting

Aloha Chair Elefante and members of the Zoning and Planning Committee,

My name is Shane H. Peters, President of Peters Communications.

I respectfully submit this letter in strong support of Mr. Dean Y. Uchida's nomination to serve as the Director of the Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP).

I have known Dean for many years and am highly confident that he has the skills, experience and acumen to lead this important agency.

From his background leading efforts to uphold regulations for conservation lands while at the Hawaii State Department of Land and Natural Resources to his role as policy advocate at the Land Use Research Foundation, he is uniquely qualified to understand and navigate the complex duties and responsibilities of DPP.

As Honolulu grapples with the many challenges ahead, I believe Dean will be a strong ally of both the Council as well as the Administration in seeking solutions, not barriers to progress. Furthermore, I know Dean to be a man of high character and integrity.

For these reasons, I urge the council to confirm Mr. Uchida to lead this vital agency.

808.421.9879 | shane@peters-comm.com

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 12:50 PM
Subject: Zoning and Planning Testimony

Written Testimony

Name Alan Takemoto
Phone 808-292-3205
Email alan.takemoto@gmail.com
Meeting Date 02-04-2021
Council/PH Committee Zoning and Planning
Agenda Item Resolution 21-22
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization

Aloha,

My name is Alan Takemoto. I am testifying in strong support for Dean Uchida's nomination as Director of the Dept. of Planning and Permitting.

Written
Testimony

I've worked with Dean while he was at LURF and I was with the Hawaii Farm Bureau in working collaboratively together on the passage of the Important Ag Lands (IAL) legislation which the intent was to preserve our best ag lands and encourage farming in Hawaii. The passage of this landmark legislation now encompasses thousands of acres of prime agricultural lands that is currently under the IAL designation.

This has shown that he is balance in his approach of preserving our most prime and productive ag lands and the growth of our population in Hawaii.

Dean is well qualified for this position and I strongly support his nomination and appointment to this position.

Mahalo,
Alan Takemoto

Testimony
Attachment
Accept Terms
and Agreement

1

*Blake K. Oshiro, Esq.
222 S. Vineyard Street, Suite 401
Blake.Oshiro@808cch.com*

Support for RES21-22 DEAN Y. UCHIDA,
Director of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu.

Dear Councilmembers -

I write in strong support of the Mayor's Message 21 and Resolution 21-22 seeking confirmation the nomination of Dean Y. Uchida to serve as the Director of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu.

I first met Mr. Uchida when I was elected to the State House of Representatives and he was working at the Department of Land and Natural Resources. As the Land Division Administrator, he had he was responsible for managing the state lands, helping to properly manage and utilize these assets and properties while balancing those uses towards ensuring the protection of Hawaii's natural resources. I later had more detailed, and at times, more impassioned, discussions and interactions with him on issues when he was in the private sector for the Land Use Research Foundation.

Throughout all those years and interactions, I found Mr. Uchida to be highly knowledgeable about issues and very thoughtful in his approach to handling sensitive issues and topics.

Looking more into Mr. Uchida's broad work experience with the private homebuilding and development industry and his involvement with private and government infrastructure and facilities, will give him a broad and unique perspective to that will be valuable leading the Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP).

But more importantly, I believe Mr. Uchida is the right person to take on the difficult job of leading change in DPP. The Office of the City Auditor came out with its Report 20-01 "Audit of the Department of Planning and Permitting's Processes for Reviewing Building Permit Applications, Resolution 18-284, CD1, FD1" in January 2020.
https://www.honolulu.gov/rep/site/oca/oca_docs/DPP_Permit_Processing_Final_Report.pdf

A review of the Auditor's recommendations demonstrates that there needs to be fundamental structural and cultural changes to DPP. Leading an organization through such monumental changes requires a leader that is willing and able to challenge existing presumptions and systems, analyze areas and roles that are working and those that are not, and adopt and implement changes that are able to be absorbed and incorporated into the procedures and protocols.

I believe that Mr. Uchida is a leader who can help see that these recommendations are evaluated and then adopted and put into place for the future work of DPP.

I hope that you will look favorably upon his appointment to this position. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 2:28 PM
Subject: Zoning and Planning Testimony

Written Testimony

Name John Harada
Phone 18089463676
Email john@ifdesigninc.com
Meeting Date 02-04-2021
Council/PH Committee Zoning and Planning
Agenda Item RESOLUTION 21-22 – NOMINATION OF DEAN Y. UCHIDA
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization

I am a registered Architect in the State of Hawaii with 30 plus years of experience on local projects.

Written Testimony I am writing to submitting testimony in support of Dean Uchida to serve as Director of Planning and Permitting of the City and County of Honolulu. Dean's broad work experience in governmental, private, and various organizations (NAHB, BIA, HHDC, HCC, etc.) I feel it gives him the insight and background required to oversee the Department of Planning and Permitting. This diverse range of experience will provide Dean a unique insight into the various issues that the department is required to address. I also feel that Dean's past positions throughout his career will also provide the right leadership to the head of the department.

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 1:49 PM
Subject: Zoning and Planning Testimony

Written Testimony

Name	Michelle Matson
Phone	8082223936
Email	MSMatson808@gmail.com
Meeting Date	02-04-2021
Council/PH Committee	Zoning and Planning
Agenda Item	Resolution 21-22
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Written Testimony	
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement 1	

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 1:45 PM
Subject: Zoning and Planning Testimony

Written Testimony

Name PAUL H BREWBAKER, Ph.D., CBE
Phone 8082201538
Email paulbrewbaker@tzeconomics.com
Meeting Date 02-04-2021
Council/PH Committee Zoning and Planning
Agenda Item Dean Uchida nomination to DPD Director *Res 21-22*
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Self
Organization

Written Testimony

I support the nomination of Dean Uchida to the position of Director of the Honolulu City & County Department of Planning and Permitting because of his professional experience in development and his service to the community. It seems like I've always known Dean since I returned to Hawaii the 1980s. Our paths have crossed informally and in collaboration over the years, from which I can testify to his qualification and expertise. His experience with both vertical and horizontal residential and commercial development, in natural resource management, and as an advocate of engineering advances put Dean on the short list of people that I know in Hawaii who would bring rigor and creativity to the administration of planning and development process in local governance. Good pick!

Testimony Attachment

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IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 3:00 PM
Subject: Zoning and Planning Testimony

Written Testimony

Name Sherry Pollack
Phone 8082398276
Email davidsher@juno.com
Meeting Date 02-04-2021
Council/PH Committee Zoning and Planning
Agenda Item Res21-22 DPP Nominee Dean Uchida
Your position on the matter Oppose
Representing Self
Organization

Written Testimony

I strongly oppose the appointment of Dean Uchida to head of the Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) due to major concerns regarding the heavily-weighted baggage Mr. Uchida brings to this forum as a former lobbyist for the Land Use Research Foundation – the developer’s lobbying group. With his previous work that also includes the SSFM International development consultancy firm, BIA President, and D.R. Horton, Mr. Uchida’s appointment to head the DPP is very disturbing to say the least, and has been likened to putting the fox in charge of guarding the hen house. I could not agree more.

Given his ties and employment history, there is an extreme conflict of interest in this appointment. Mr. Uchida should not be confirmed to this position, lest the City Council wants to lose the confidence and trust of the voters.

Testimony Attachment

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IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 1:56 PM
Subject: Council Testimony

Written Testimony

Name Tom Coffman
Phone 808 7818789
Email tomcoffman@hawaii.rr.com
Meeting Date 02-04-2021
Council/PH Council
Committee
Agenda Item Dean Uchida DPP appointment *Res 21-22*
Your position on the matter Oppose
Representing Self
Organization

Written Testimony Mr. Uchida's record is all about development. This is not appropriate to the job of DPP, which should be about striking a careful and well-reasoned balance. Tom Coffman

Testimony
Attachment
Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2021 4:05 PM
Subject: Council Testimony

Written Testimony

Name John Shockley
Phone 808 672-6535
Email shockleyjr@gmail.com
Meeting Date 02-04-2021
Council/PH Committee Council
Agenda Item resolution 21-022
Your position on the matter Oppose
Representing Organization Self

Written Testimony

I am afraid Dean Uchida is too much of an insider with developers to defend the public from unscrupulous dealings and zoning exceptions that will come before him. I am hoping this is not so, but his track record shows too much "insider" connections with developers which is unhealthy for guarding the general public interest.

Testimony Attachment

Accept Terms and Agreement 1

IP: 192.168.200.67

Written Testimony

Name	Linda Wong
Phone	(808) 923-7484
Email	leiahi@me.com
Meeting Date	02-04-2021
Council/PH Committee	Executive Management
Agenda Item	Appointment of Dean Uchida <i>Res 21-22</i>
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing Organization	Self
Written Testimony	<p>Aloha, Due to prior dealings, management and employment I oppose Dean Uchida's appointment to DPP. ESPECIALLY with DPP being reviewed.</p> <p>Sincerely, Linda Wong Diamond Head</p>
Testimony Attachment	
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

IP: 192.168.200.67